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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/787,953	03/23/2001	Hajime Makio	001582	7981
38834	7590	03/02/2005	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			PATEL, ASHOK	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2879	

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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022605

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

This communication is in response to applicant's letter dated 12/21/2004.

The Examiner considers previously non-considered U.S. Prior art reference no. 6,427,490. It appears that this U.S. Prior art reference was left out inadvertently from consideration (by previous Examiner - Holly Harper). The Examiner considers this U.S. Patent reference at this time.


As to the Japanese reference JP 54-131864, the Examiner also considers this prior art reference since it was submitted earlier by applicant on 01/21/2004.

Attached please find two separate PTOL-1449 forms, showing these two prior references (U.S. Prior art reference 6,427,490) and the Japanese prior art reference (JP54-131864) as considered

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-2456. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on 571-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Ashok Patel  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2879

09/787,953

PTO-90C (Rev.04-03)

Attachment - 2 Pages of PTOL-1449